

Message

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Sent: 5/19/2016 9:07:29 PM
To: McQueen, Jacqueline [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3a023f4d48ee4e1f8b758fa87310f703-McQueen, Jackie]; Cybulski, Walter [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd603b96ddf54942b3a7088e849e114e-Cybulski, Walter]; Cuje, Jace [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6d83b70aa3b646b49e7e383a69442f22-Cuje, Jace]; Flowers, Lynn [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a4411c874d041b9a8badfc32b91bd70-Flowers, Lynn]; Fegley, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=790aa5a70d9045bda631d9d6e548d704-Fegley, Robert]; Smith, Kelley [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=83492f2021db4de0ab4ebcfafce7b12c-Smith, Kelley]
Subject: Thursday news round up

Hi all,

Our readership is growing! See below for today's top stories. These are specific to land team issues.

Thanks,
Megan

TSCA Reform Supporters Eye Final Bill Fixes To Boost Floor Vote Support

Democratic Senate supporters of a final compromise bill to overhaul the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) are discussing potential further changes ahead of floor votes on the legislation to win over Democratic lawmakers that currently oppose the measure, including tweaks to provisions on when the bill could preempt states' chemicals programs.

Related Story: House TSCA Supporters Predict Victory Over Some Democrats' Concerns

TSCA Reform Agreement Effectively Reached: Lawmakers

After months of heated bicameral negotiations, lawmakers announced today they have effectively reached an agreement that would broadly overhaul the nation's primary chemicals law.

Nearly a dozen Democratic and Republican senators, including Sens. James Inhofe (R-Okla.), David Vitter (R-La.), Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Tom Udall (D-N.M.), said Congress intends to pass the overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act before departing for a week-long break at the end of the month.

Inhofe told reporters at a news conference today the bill will be "passed, signed and on the president's desk" before the Memorial Day break. He said he expected Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, would post the compromise next within the next day and tee up a House vote on the measure as soon as next Tuesday.

Vitter, one of the bill's original co-sponsors, said there was "absolutely" an agreement from Senate leadership to take up the measure "in short order"—likely by unanimous consent—as soon as the House voted on it.

"This really is a significant accomplishment," Vitter said.

EPA Backs Draft Bill to Amend Chemicals Law

Draft legislation the EPA has seen that would amend the Toxic Substances Control Act "is a clear improvement over current law," an agency spokesman tells Bloomberg BNA. The legislation would reconcile the House and Senate's separate TSCA bills. The measures would update TSCA, which hasn't had its core provisions changed since 1976. [More »](#)

To Fight Zika, EPA Seeks Funds To Shred Tires Where Mosquitoes Breed

EPA is joining a broad federal effort to combat the spread of the Zika virus by seeking funding for mosquito control efforts, including a plan to shred large piles of old tires that serve as breeding grounds for the pests, though agency pesticide advisors say mosquito control efforts should also seek to avoid misuse of harmful insecticides.

EPA Crafting Additional SNUR To Limit Uses Of Controversial Solvent TCE

EPA is developing another proposed rule to restrict uses of the controversial solvent trichloroethylene (TCE), once commonly used but now facing phaseouts and multiple actions after the agency linked it to fetal cardiac birth defects in a 2011 risk assessment, a conclusion strongly contested by various industries.

In its Action Initiation List (AIL) of rulemaking efforts launched in March -- and posted to the agency's website April 26 -- EPA says it is working on a significant new use rule (SNUR) for TCE uses as a spray degreaser in non-aerosol applications, and plans to propose the rule within 12 months or less.

Advocates, Utilities Defend Preferred Provisions Of EPA's Coal Ash Rule

Environmentalists and utilities are sparring over the legality of EPA's first-time Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulation for coal ash disposal, with advocates hoping to preserve provisions on regulating "inactive" disposal sites and industry groups defending the exclusion of closed "legacy" sites.

EU Postpones Glyphosate Reauthorization Vote

A regulatory committee of European Union member state representatives today deferred a vote on the reauthorization in the bloc of the herbicide glyphosate, signaling a continued deadlock among EU countries over the substance. The current EU authorization for glyphosate—one of the world's most widely used active ingredients in herbicides, including in Monsanto's Roundup brand—expires June 30, but finding agreement on reauthorization has proved controversial amid conflicting reports about whether or not it could be carcinogenic. The commission initially proposed a reauthorization of glyphosate through 2031, but the European Parliament is recommending conditional reauthorization for seven years.

EPA Still Struggling to Obtain Pesticide Data

The EPA is still struggling to obtain the raw data from a landmark study on the effects of a widely used insecticide, a study that could ultimately determine how the agency regulates the chemical in the future. Jack Housenger, leader of the EPA's pesticide regulatory office, says the agency hasn't yet received an official response to its latest request to Columbia University for the data on its study, which found that pre- and post-natal exposure to the insecticide chlorpyrifos can have serious neurodevelopmental consequences. [More »](#)

N.C. Proposes Excavation of All Coal Ash Ponds

All coal ash ponds in North Carolina would have to be dug up under proposed risk classifications released May 18 by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

Every one of the 33 impoundments in the state now is proposed to be classified as posing high- or intermediate-risk to health and the environment, meaning they must be excavated before 2020 and 2025, respectively. The lagoons at issue are at 14 sites, all owned by Duke Energy.

EPA Moving on Superfund Financial Assurance Rules

The Environmental Protection Agency is following up on Superfund regulations to assure hardrock mine operators have enough money to pay for hazardous substance releases, according to a May 17 agency webinar.

The proposed regulation—required by a consent decree—will determine which mines are to be regulated, gauge the bond required and direct the flow of funds from a "financial responsibility instrument," according to a presentation by the EPA rulemaking team.

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